

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/922,197

Examiner

Joseph P. Hirl

Applicant(s)

SCARBOROUGH ET AL.

Art Unit

2129

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to December 16, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3,5,7 and 58-66.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

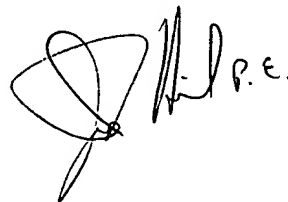
\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 121605, 121605
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.



***Reasons for Allowance***

1. Claims 3, 5, 7 and 58-66 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The cited prior art taken alone or in combination fails to teach the claims invention of an electronic employee selection system wherein electronic data questionnaire is presented to an individual, answers are electronically stored, prediction is established conditioned on at least one job performance criterion related to at least one post hire result modeled from the correlations of questions and answers related to post hire information of other individuals that will establish a metric of suitability of an individual for employment wherein at least one of the following applies: questions are subjected to a defined performance-driven item rotation; post hire outcome is a predicted probability for a particular value range for at least one job performance criterion; predicted values related to at least one post-hire criterion for at least one job performance criterion is a function of a continuous variable; or prediction is achieved by a model validated by a plurality of successive validation cycles related to the input answers to the model identifying post-hire results related to at least one job performance criterion. The technique of using a plurality of successive validation cycles creates a second learning process that expands the models ability to generalize.

The closest prior art (Bro, U. S. Patent 5,722,418) teaches a method for mediating social and behavioral process in medicine and business through an interactive telecommunications guidance system wherein questions are sent to an employee related to changing or reinforcing goal management. Bro does not teach

questions are subjected to a defined performance-driven item rotation; post hire outcome is a predicted probability for a particular value range for at least one job performance criterion; predicted values related to at least one post-hire criterion for at least one job performance criterion is a function of a continuous variable; and prediction is achieved by a model validated by a plurality of successive validation cycles related to the input answers to the model identifying post-hire results related to at least one job performance criterion.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Correspondence Information***

Any inquiry concerning this information or related to the subject disclosure should be directed to the Primary Examiner, Joseph P. Hirl, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3685. The Examiner can be reached on Monday – Thursday from 6:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, David R. Vincent can be reached at (571) 272-3080.

Any response to this office action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,

Washington, D. C. 20231;

Hand delivered to:

Receptionist,

Customer Service Window,

Randolph Building,

401 Dulany Street,

Alexandria, Virginia 22313,

(located on the first floor of the south side of the Randolph Building);

or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300 (for formal communications intended for entry.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have any questions on access to Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. P. Hirl", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joseph P. Hirl  
Primary Examiner  
March 1, 2006